

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2243
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2002
PRICE OF DIABETIC MEDICINES
PATY RIPPLE KYNDIAH

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Price hike hits diabetics" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 19.09.2002;

(b) if so, the details alongwith facts thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government to reduce the price of Insulin?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) : Insulin is a Scheduled bulk drug under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995). Fixation/revision of prices of Scheduled bulk drugs and formulations based thereon is an ongoing process and is undertaken by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. Insulin is not produced in the country and is required to be imported. Therefore, its price in the country varies in accordance with its import price. There is no customs/excise duty on insulin formulations. To make available Insulin to poor patients at reasonable prices, the NPPA have met with all the manufacturers/importers of insulin formulations. Some leading companies stated that they have started supplying insulin formulations at special discounted rates for poor and needy patients through medical institutions, hospitals and non-profit organisations recommended by State Governments.